



Maria Feliciana
Arballo



Maria
Francisca
Romero



Maria
Jacinta
Bástida



Josefa
Espinosa

My name is Francisca Romero and I am 30 years old. My husband is Ramón Bojórques who is 32 years old. We are from Villa de Sinaloa, but my husband, who is a soldier, was stationed at the Presidio of Buenavista on the Río Yaqui. We are bringing two daughters with us, Gertrudis 14 and Micaela 12. Both girls are already thinking about getting married. Indeed, Father Font has published the banns for Micaela and plans to marry her to Ignacio Higuera in three days. My husband was chosen by Commander Anza to go with him to Alta California to serve at a new presidio, and he has accepted the assignment. Once we arrive, we will be so far away from the rest of my family and friends that I will probably never see them again. I knew what a soldier's life is like when I married Ramón, so I will not complain.

My name is Feliciano Arballo, and I am 25 years old and widow of José Gutiérrez with two children María Tomasa 4 years old and Eustaquia born only a month ago. My husband died a few months ago, and there was no one in my area that I would like to marry. Last spring people came by my house and told me they had enlisted to go with Commander Anza to Alta California. I have been living near Horcasitas for some time. I begged him to let me and my daughter to go with him and Anza accepted me the next day. Although I am recently a widow, I am a happy person, and I like to sing and dance.

My name is Josefa Espinosa and I am 17 years old. I am the wife of Carlos Gallegos. He is 34 years old. He is twice my age but he is a kind, good man, and I am happy to be his wife. Carlos is a soldier who has been chosen by Commander Anza to travel to Alta California by way of the trail that Anza found last year. My husband has accepted the assignment, so I will be going with him. We have been staying here at the Tubac Presidio for sometime. I am not too happy about this trip since the new presidio is so far away. I will try to be a good wife and do what needs to be done. Yet, I wish we were not going.

My name is Jacinta Bástida, and I am a 26 year old. My husband's name is Santiago de la Cruz Pico, and he is a 38 year old. We live in San Miguel de Horcasitas. We have six children. Five are boys: José Maria 7 years old, José Dolores 6, Francisco Xavier 5, Miguel 4, Patricio 3, and our youngest, a girl Antonia 2. In addition to the clothes given to my husband and myself, hats, shoes and ribbons were provided for our children. I was also provided so many yards of cloth to make clothing for my children. I am so grateful that we brought along 15-year-old María Josefa to help with so much sewing.

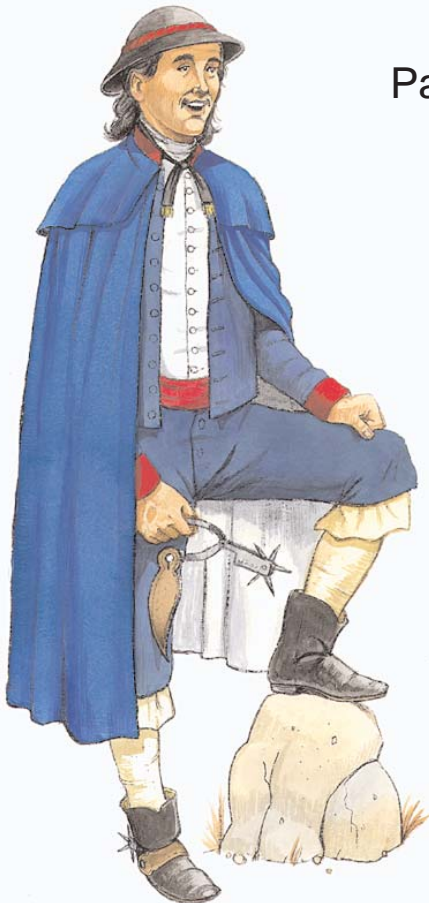
Maria Micaela
Ruiz



Teresa Pinto



Pablo Pinto



Pedro
Bojórquez



My name is Teresa Pinto. I am an 18 year old from Villa de Sinaloa. My husband's name is Nicolás Galindo, and he is a 33 year old from Chihuahua. We have a little boy who is 5 months old named Juan Venancio. When my father, Pablo, arrived here in El Fuerte, he told us that he had enlisted in Commander Anza's expedition to Alta California. We were given the opportunity to go as part of my father's family. We would be given all the things we need for the trip and, when we arrive, land, animals, tools, and other things that would help us make a new start in the new land, but we will not get a salary. My sister Juana will be going with her husband, so it will be good to have all of my family close by. My husband hopes to enlist in the Army.

My name is Micaela Ruiz, and I am the wife of Manuel González. I am 28 years old, and my husband is 35 years old. We have five children, three boys: Juan José 14 years old, Ramón 6 and Francisco 1 and two girls, Gregoria 15 and Ana 8. My husband and I are both Apache Indians. We have been waiting with the commander for some time at the Tubac Presidio. The unchristianized Apaches have made many raids on other Indians as well as on the españoles. They steal horses because they use the horses and like to eat horse meat. We are going with fewer saddle horses than Commander Anza had planned because of their raids. Still, many of us have accepted the faith and customs brought by the missionaries. Our family goes proudly to prove our loyalty to the Church and King.

My name is Pedro Bojórquez. I am a 27-year-old español. My wife's name is Francisca Lara, and she is 18 years old. We have one child, a little girl Agustina, who is one year old. I was a farm worker living in Villa de Sinaloa. Last April Commander Anza asked for men who would like to join the army and go to Alta California. As soon as we enlisted we would start receiving army pay and I got: 3 good linen shirts, 3 pairs of cotton under pants, 2 cloth jackets, lined and trimmed, 2 pairs of pants, 2 pair of stockings, 2 pair of buckskin boots, a hat and 4 yards of ribbon for my hat and hair.

My name is Pablo Pinto. I am 43 years old. My wife's name is Francisca Xaviera Ruelas, and she is 40 years old. We have with us two boys, Juan María 16 years old, Marcelo 14 and a girl Juana who is 12 years old. Our two married daughters and their families are also coming. I am a farmer living in Villa de Sinaloa, New Spain. Living here has become very difficult, and I worry about my sons being able to make a living in this area. This year the drought has been very bad and farming almost impossible and I don't think it will get better very soon. So I decided to join Commander Anza's expedition and become a soldier. I am older than most of the others, but I am strong and in good health, so I am confident I will be successful.



Pedro Pérez



Petra Ignacia
Ochoa



Josefa Acuña



Felipa Neri

My name is Petra Ignacia Ochoa, and I am 20 years old. My husband is Agustín Valenzuela, and he is 30 years old. We have one daughter, Seferina, who is 3 years old. My husband heard that Commander Anza was recruiting soldiers to serve at new presidio in Alta California, and he has accepted the assignment. I am not too happy about it, since the new presidio is so far away, and we must travel along a very dangerous trail. When we arrive, who knows what we will find? Life here in Culiacán, Sinaloa, has been very hard, so perhaps it will be better for us to move to this new area.

My name is Pedro Pérez de la Fuente, and I am 28 years old and still not married. I was so poor that I could not provide for a wife and so could not ask any one to marry me. Perhaps I will do better and will find a pretty señorita who will accept me as a husband. Until we leave, I am staying at the Tubac Presidio.

My name is Felipa Neri, and I am 45 years old. My husband's name is Sebastián Antonio López, and he is 47 years old. We are the oldest couple going with the expedition. We have three children who are going to go with us to Alta California. Our son Sebastián Antonio is 17 years old, and our oldest daughter Tomasa is 20 years old. Our youngest girl, Justa, is only 5, and you can imagine how spoiled she is. Last spring Colonel Anza came to our town and asked for men who would be willing to become soldiers and move to Alta California to help found a new presidio. We have been living here at the Tubac Presidio, waiting for the expedition to leave. Anza was very pleased when my husband enlisted as he is an experienced mule packer and driver.

My name is Josefa Acuña, and I am 28 years old. My husband is Antonio García and he is 42 years old. I have five children, two from my first marriage to Dionisio Hernández-Arroyo, Vicente 12 years old and Graciana 10, and three with Antonio, Francisco 6, Guillermo 5 and Josefa 3. My husband lived in Guanajuato, Sonora, and came four years ago to Culiacán. He was a farm worker. Last spring my husband heard that Commander Anza was recruiting soldiers to take with him to Alta California to serve at a new presidio promising a salary and when we get to California, land, stock and tools. My husband has accepted the assignment. He is one of the oldest men in this group, but he is strong and healthy. We are both looking forward to starting a new life in Alta California. This will be the first expedition to go to Alta California by land from the mainland. Before it has been by ship to Loreto, then land or even all the way by ship. Commander Anza has gone over this trail only once so there may be many surprises. Hopefully we will all get there safely.

Valerio Mesa



My name is Valerio Mesa. I am 33 years old. My wife's name is Leonor Borboa, and she is 30-years-old. We are both españoles. We have six children: five boys, Joaquín 13, Ignacio 12, José Dolores 9, Antonio 7, and Juan 5 and one girl Manuela who is 8 years old. I was stationed at Altar, Sonora. Last spring Commander Anza asked me if I would be willing to move to Alta California to help establish a new presidio. Of course, since I am a soldier, I will travel wherever my commander tells me. He is a very wise commander, and is giving me a choice in this matter as I must take my family along. My wife and I thought it over and she has agreed to come, even though it will be a very hard trip for us.